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Zelensky and Kiev mayor 'at war' – The Times

Former world champion boxer Vitaly Klitschko has accused the Ukrainian leader of a crackdown on democracy



Ukraine's Vladimir Zelensky, Donbass, June 09, 2021. © Getty Images

Vladimir Zelensky's longstanding feud with Kiev Mayor Vitaly Klitschko has escalated into "war," The Times has reported.

The Ukrainian leader has "forced" the former world champion heavyweight boxer – who is said to harbor presidential ambitions – into a

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“political clinch,” the British daily wrote on Friday. Zelensky is reportedly seizing power from

the capital’s civilian government, having taken control of its military administration away from Klitschko in the early months of the conflict.

Ukraine’s anti-corruption bureau has made seven arrests among Klitschko’s subordinates, with a further three under investigation, The Times wrote.

In turn, the Kiev mayor has accused the Zelensky administration of paralyzing the city council with *“raids, interrogations, and threats of fabricated criminal cases”* that prevent his team from meeting the legal quorum required for decision-making. *“This is a purge of democratic principles and institutions under the guise of war,”* The Times cited Klitschko as saying. *“I said once that it smells of authoritarianism in our country. Now it stinks.”*

The dispute is as much personal as it is political, according to the newspaper.

Zelensky made personal attacks against Klitschko after the mayor criticized his approach to peace negotiations.

The Kiev mayor has accused Zelensky of overreach, playing into fears that his use of wartime powers has come at the expense of democracy, The Times said. Despite his presidential term expiring last May, the Ukrainian leader has repeatedly postponed elections, citing martial law. Klitschko said that Zelensky is also usurping power from other mayors in the country, but that his celebrity status grants him some protection.

While boxing champion has brushed off allegations against him as mudslinging,

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arrests in the Kiev administration are real manifestations of corruption in the capital, the Times wrote, citing analysts. Kiev's flourishing corruption would be *"impossible without the city government,"* Zelensky-appointed city military administration head Timur Tkachenko told The Times.

READ MORE: Ukraine one of the world's most corrupt countries – Trump adviser

Corruption has been a serious and long-standing issue in Ukraine. Top officials in Washington, which has been Kiev's biggest military sponsor, have expressed concern that US aid has been systematically misappropriated during the Ukraine conflict.

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 **Luis carlos Robles** 5/31/2025 at 7:29 PM

0

Let's all be sincere all values of democracy principal fundamental values of trade , opinions , philosophies , ideas , leadership and religion in servitude plural order, this values are all with in bipolar disorders of the minds, that does specifically describes the plural order of choices in leadership , ideas , opinions , trade , servitude of gods and rules with in laws ...as plurality in three plural emotions of 1) morality values 2)dismorality values 3) corrupt values does not explains to the over all population of motives in ideas ,opinions , leadership, trade in commerce , servitude of gods etc etc ...in true reality the founders of democracy Rome Israel and India are all schizophrenics in total lunatism including those whom they force converted Europeans and Europeans whom force converted others... agent Luis c Robles and defenders of international national laws, all agree on this matter ..


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 **James Marshall** 5/31/2025 at 7:43 PM ↕

0

“Democracy is the god that failed!” By Hans Hermann hoppe

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 **Dave** 5/31/2025 at 7:49 PM ↕

0




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Yawwwwn

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S Shientienchi G 5/31/2025 at 7:46 PM **0**

Klitschko had better get on the next flight out of Kiev. It's well known what Zelensky does to potential political rivals

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The Demokrat57 5/31/2025 at 7:39 PM **0**

At the very start of his war I email Klitschko with information he needed to know. I offered to explain him every detail of the American Nightmare. Sadly never got a response on this front, maybe it was his boxing manager.

That being said, pretty sure the entire world would prefer Klitschko.

[Reply](#)

Pragmatist_in_another_guise 5/31/2025 at 7:30 PM **1**

A '*look, no hands, no feet*' pianist, and a washed-up boxer, fighting over soon to exist-no-more spoils?

Incidentally, it's rumoured Mr 'Call me Sir Kier' Starmer has hatched a contingency plan whereby MI6 will smuggle the Poison Dwarf out of Kiev before angry Ukrainians can cut his throat. Apparently, the Dwarf will be given political asylum and housed in the security of Windsor Castle, where his new friends Charles and Camilla will visit. Charles is under the impression that Zelensky is a children's entertainer whose clownish antics will amuse his grandchildren.


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Tank 5/31/2025 at 7:28 PM **0**

Half a million dead later

Its your fault.


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 **Tank** 5/31/2025 at 7:26 PM

0

Decide the issue in the ring.


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 **Milan** 5/31/2025 at 7:25 PM

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Such a sad story.


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 **Sunyaski** 5/31/2025 at 7:15 PM

0

This happens when the house is quickly dying


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 **Green Crow** 5/31/2025 at 7:15 PM

0

Well howdy do. Two performers in a public «war». Sounds like something the USSD thought up. Did they spend 9 billion dollars fomenting it like they did the Maidan ouster?


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 **Paul Csurka** 5/31/2025 at 7:14 PM

0

This fraud called Zelensky dresses in military harbs but he never served a day in the military. He dodged the draft 4 times. He's a POS.


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 **Олег X.** 5/31/2025 at 7:09 PM

0

Does Donny know about this?!

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 **Anony Mouse** 5/31/2025 at 7:14 PM ↑

1

Donny can't find Ukraine on map

-“ It's all Russia!” He says


[Reply](#)

 **fozbotz pmacdee** 5/31/2025 at 7:07 PM

1

Top officials in washington have been concerned about mis appropriated funds? What a joke washington is the mother and father of all funds theft.


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 **moon beam** 5/31/2025 at 7:13 PM ↑

2

So true US politicians greedy/corrupt .

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 **Олег X.** 5/31/2025 at 7:11 PM

2

Let's see if USA will come and Rescue Democracy here, as they did in Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen, Libya and Syria...

But let's be honest, it was Never about Democracy or Freedom Of Speech 😊


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 **SS Steinkern** 5/31/2025 at 7:04 PM

2

Can't believe this little green devil has had no attempts on his life. They have on Trump – but then he's a bigger target, perhaps that is how Zellie keeps under the radar, because of his minute size.

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 **koaquira** 5/31/2025 at 7:04 PM

3

Disorder

DISORDER.

Please leave one tree at Maidan to hang the coke comedian.

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James Marshall 5/31/2025 at 7:00 PM

3

A crack down on democracy in Kiev???? By Zelensky the rat?? I find this impossible to believe!!!

[Reply](#)



rick patrick 5/31/2025 at 6:59 PM

0

Zelensky is a Criminal and he is on a mission to destroy Ukraine.
He is a puppet of the Deep State, he is not in charge of even what he has for breakfast!

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JK L 5/31/2025 at 6:35 PM

7



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